A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Tuesday, December 4. 1711.

I Thought at first I had been Engag'd with a Man of Breeding and Manners, but I find I am quite mistaken, and that I have to do with a meer Bully or Buffoon; a Man of Arrogance and meer Insolence, abandon'd by the Civility and Courtisie his own Country is Valuable for, and given up to the Vice of it; *furieux en Comme une Ecosse*; Since, then, he resolves to take this merry Way with me, and, while he cannot Argue me out of my Reason, he will Bully me out of it; I must take another Course with him; for whether his Learning out-does me or no, I am convinc'd his Assurance does.

I remember a toppling Hero at this *Billingsgate* Science in the North of *England*, who when he was Argu'd a little closely with, and found his Sense fail him, would bristle up to you like a *Cock Turkey*, and when you offer'd to speak, his Answer was, *BOH!* His Arguments such as these, *I will, I wont; Bob, you are a Fool; Bob, you Lye*, and *Bob, I know better than you*; and this Way he was sure to run down every body.

Just thus, the *Observator* deals with me ——Pray mark the Sense of our Discourse a little.

I told him that I Printed and now own'd, That to give *Spain* to *France* was a Distraction,

tion, and we had as good give *Ireland* to them.

Obſervator. Boh! *You Lye*; you Write for giving *Spain* to the Houſe of *Bourbonne*.

Review. I anſwer'd, By *Spain*, I am to be underſtood the Monarchy of *Spain*.

Obſ. Boh! *You are a Fool*; you don't underſtand Logick.

Rev. I tell him, *Spain* can be underſtood no otherwiſe, when ſpoken in general; that if we ſpeak of any particular, we name them as *Old Spain*, *New Spain*, *Spaniſh Dominions* in *Italy*, and the like; but that when we ſpeak of the King of *Spain*, we mean the King of the whole Monarchy.

Obſ. Boh! You don't underſtand Grammar.

Rev. I told him often, I am for Erecting no Exorbitance at all, neither *French* nor *German*.

Obj. Boh! *You Lye*; You have let *Auſtrian* Greatneſs put *French* Greatneſs out of your Head.

Rev. I tell him I am Arguing in behalf of the *Proteſtant Intereſt* of *Germany*, that it may not again be betray'd into the Hands of a Bloody Generation, that formerly trampled it under-foot.

Obſ. Boh! *You are a Rogue*, Confederate with *ABEL*.

Now ſince I am Treated thus, and the Tongue of a Bully is drawn againſt me, I muſt provide myſelf new Defences; for Reaſon and Argument will no more ſerve againſt a Bully and a Slanderer, than a Paper Helmet againſt a Muſquet Bullet; from henceforth then I muſt Treat him after another manner; he's a Fool that will fight an Aſs with his Heels, or when a Dog barks, bark at him again; Bullies are to be p—'d upon, nor Reaſon'd with; the Correction of a Whip, not the Satisfaction of a Gentleman, is doing Juſtice to a Buffoon; 'tis to Box with a Chimney-ſweeper, to ſcold with a *Billingſgate*; He ſhall henceforth therefore be the Subject of Satyr and Laughter, the Contempt due to him —— And what I ſhall uſe of Argument, ſhall be to Men of Senſe, leaving him to the Farce of the Play, and the Contempt he deſerves.

He quotes me a *Review* of *Septemb.* 1ſt. wherein I Argued againſt giving *Spain* to the *French*, and bids me reconcile it to my preſent Diſcourſe —— I ſhew'd him how this had been Queried before him, by another, and that I had anſwer'd it to Satisfaction, *Rev.* N° 78. *Octob.* 13. and that it was not fair Diſputing to ask one Queſtion twice, but he ſhould firſt have Reply'd to the Anſwer; this he holds his Tongue in, knowing he wanted to have his Logick Corrected there, but comes off of it after my Country-man's Way above, with Bullying me, thus, *Boh! You do not underſtand Logick.*

Indeed no-body can underſtand his Logick —— My Logick is ſpeaking plain Truth in an explicit manner, *Ars Loquendi*, is to me nothing elſe; this I pretend to, and if I do not do it, I'll accept of any one's Teaching: All that is more than this, is Juggling with Words, Sophiſtry, and Froth, and worth no Man's Notice; therefore I leave this to him, who manifeſts to the World, that he neither underſtands Logick nor Senſe, when it is againſt him.

I calmly prov'd to him, That what I ſaid of giving *Spain*, could be underſtood of nothing but the whole Monarchy, and that my former and ſubſequent Diſcourſe proved it; his Anſwer is, *Boh! You'd be hiſs'd out of the Schools* —— And yet unleſs we will explain Things by antecedent and ſubſequent Diſcourſe, the Text by the Context, the Scripture itſelf cannot be underſtood; ſo my Man of Self Wiſdom, has hiſs'd all the Expoſitors of Scripture off of the Stage at once.

What do you all mean, when you talk of *Spain*, or of a King of *Spain* in general, but a King of all the *Spaniſh* Dominions? But if you ſpeak of the particular part, vulgarly, *but Erroneouſly* call'd *Spain*, do you not always ſay ſo, and call it *Old Spain*? But my Bully will have me mean contrary

to

to the general Acceptation, and contrary to what all People are underſtood to mean, when they ſpeak as I then ſpoke, *O Learned Logician!*

But *I was Treating all along of a Partition* —— And therefore I muſt mean the particular part call'd *Spain*, *Excellent Logick again!* —— Was I not Arguing for a Partition, and therefore Arguing againſt giving the whole to any-body? Has not this been the ſum of my Diſcourſe all along? ——Is not this what I inſiſt upon with ſo much force that he cannot withſtand, and therefore Rails?

How often muſt an Ignorant Perſon have a Thing Repeated to him? Is this Senſe or is it not? Let him hear it again.

> To give the *Spaniſh* Monarchy to the *French* is Diſtraction, and you had as good give them *Ireland*, *that I laid down firſt.*
>
> To give the *Spaniſh* Monarchy to the Emperor, is Diſtraction, and betraying the *Proteſtant Intereſt*; *that I laid down next.*

But a *Treaty of Partition* is the only Way to preſerve us all, *this is the Conſequence I drew.*

Is not this all of a piece? Is there not a juſt Connection in it all? Is not this Logick? But this Man! blinded by Folly and Ignorance, that ſhews he underſtands neither Grammar nor Senſe, flies out and tells me, and will have it be ſo, whether I will or no, *That I am for giving* Spain *to* France; *That I have put* French *Exorbitance out of my Head*, and the like, which is juſt as before, Anſwering an Argument with *Bob! You Lye*, and *Bob! You are a Fool.*

But to put this yet farther out of Diſpute, and make his Arrogance yet more Wonderful, his Logick is ſtill wrong too, and if he were at School, he would deſerve more than I ſhall give him; for tho' I were to grant all he pretends to, *which I do not*, and had really mean't *Old Spain only*, yet his Argument is wrong, becauſe he has not ſhewn, nor can he ſhew, wherein I have ſaid one Word for giving *Spain* to *France*, *qua Spain*, or *Old Spain*.

I ſay may he be Hang'd that gives *France* one Foot of Ground any where, that can be kept from him —— Where then is the difficulty of reconciling the *Review* of *Sept.* the *21ſt.*? And what have I ſaid ſince that Contradicts it? So that in all his Charge of this kind, beſides being an unfair Diſputant, he makes himſelf a manifeſt Slanderer —— And as ſuch, he ought to be Treated.

But thus thoſe that have turn'd their own Tales, always Reproach others, and it is but a juſt Law, well warranted, to ſay, *Phyſician, heal thy ſelf*; wherefore tho' Recrimination be no Argument, yet this is moſt Righteous, that he who is ſo earneſt to have me reconcile my Contradictions, ſhould be Guilty of none himſelf.

Wherefore I would recommend to him to reconcile the Contradictions following, whether they Concern himſelf or any body elſe, he beſt knows,

Firſt. A Perſon joining in that Villainous Reproach upon the late King *William*, charging his Majeſty with the Maſſacre of the *Glenco-Men*, as a barbarous Murther, and frequently after, calling him King *William of Glorious Memory*.

Secondly. Promiſing at the beginning of a Paper, call'd the *Obſervator*, That no Perſonal Reflections ſhould be us'd in it, and in a few more of the ſame Paper, beginning Perſonal Reflections on the Memory of that Glorious Prince, as *omitting to do many Things for us, which he might have done.*

Thirdly. Excuſing this by a farther Innuendo of blacker Things, which might be ſaid of the King, but *forborn to be expreſs'd, in Reſpect to the Reputation of his Memory*; and ſince that, *finding theſe Things would not take* with the *Engliſh* Proteſtants of this Nation (who retain'd a juſt Veneration for the Glorious Things that Monarch has done for them) turning his Tale again, and giving him all the fine Epithets imagi-

imaginable, as Glorious, Excellent, and the like.

Fourthly. Some very groſs Reflections in the Time of the laſt Miniſtry, upon the Duke of *M*——, the late Lord Treaſurer, and others of that Miniſtry, and upon this Author, as Employ'd by them, or to uſe his own Words, a Tool to them all, equally Unjuſt and Unwarrantable with the reſt, and which he finds now Injuriouſly improv'd by their Enemies at this Time, and for which he may more juſtly be Coupled with *ABEL*, than any Man that ever writ on that Side.

Theſe ſeeming Contradictions, perhaps, he may reconcile, by the help of his Excellence in Logick, which when he does, he ſhall have a Licenſe from me, to Slander me at his Pleaſure, and till then, nothing he ſays after this ought to be regarded by any honeſt Man, and therefore I have done with him; I would have talk'd calmly with him, if he had pleas'd, and earneſtly deſir'd it, being confident of the Goodneſs of my Meaning, and hoping to Convince him, *as I thank God I have done many*; but ſince he deſcends to Slander and Railery, without Provocation, let him clear himſelf of being a Turn-Coat, if he can —— If he does it fairly, I'll ſubmit, and make him publick Satisfaction, by asking him Pardon, which all Gentlemen will own to be *l'Amende Honorable*; if he cannot, the Fault is not mine that theſe Things come to this height, but his own; and as to the Satisfaction of his Hands, I muſt venture it.

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Printed for and ſold by *John Baker* at the *Black-Boy*, in *Pater-Noſter-Row*. 1711.